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FORT NEW AMSTERDAM (NEW YORK), 1651.

When you leave, please leave this book
Because it has been said
"Ever'thing comes t' him who waits
Except a loaned book."

John Henry Dearnell

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Monday November 18th 1849. Jan. 17, 1849

It has been said, and I have often thought that a daily record of anecdotes, or whatever may be deemed worthy of note might prove very useful, if not amusing I scarcely a day passes without ~~it~~ thought or ~~circumstance~~ circumstance and if suffered to pass unnoted it soon entirely obliterated from our memories, Such a record I this day commence with a ~~firm~~ resolution to adhere to it unless broken in upon by sickness or some other equally good cause ~~for the non-performance of my resolution~~. I remember reading of some distinguished author whose name I cannot now recal, who wrote a very readable book in the short intervals of time during which he was waiting for his dinner. Without hoping or indeed even wishing ever to become an Author, I cannot help thinking how much better it would have been for me had I taken advantage of the very many idle moments which I have found hang heavy, and noted down on paper a stray thought, or an amusing story. This in a city like New York teeming with its

and where all the elements which go to make life happy or miserable are blended together countless thousands, will be no very difficult matter. I can very readily conceive of the difficulty one experienced at Sea in keeping a Journal the monotony of which is very well described in a Stanza which if I remember rightly is to the following purport. Effect,

Two things I dread the monotony
Of an Atlantic trip;
Sometimes I find you ship a Sea
Sometimes you see a Ship.

Nov. 19

These are days of tribulation and anxiety of mine to all who are engaged in trade. The merchant who yesterday congratulated himself upon being the fortunate and happy possessor of his hundreds of thousands, is to-day bankrupt and ruined. Among other failures I perceive the firm of Shaver & Co have advertised an assignment for the benefit of their Creditors, One would have thought that the unfortunate inheritor of such a name would have found no little difficulty in obtaining credit. However it only goes to shew that the facilities of

credit have been too great, when merchants have been willing to trust their goods to Stacey.

——— Called today on a young friend of mine, an old schoolmate — there's a destination without a difference. 'Trombly' is an instance of perseverance and industry worthy of record and imitation. He lost his father when quite a youth and was apprenticed by his guardians to a Cabinet Maker with whom he served his time until his twenty first year. While engaged at his trade he made himself master of the German language in which he converses with the fluency of a native. As soon as his apprenticeship was at an end he entered upon the study of the law with Judge Morse of Brooklyn, with whom he is now associated as partner, and whose ~~wife's~~ wife's sister he a short time since married. I predict for him should he live, an honorable career in the profession which he has chosen.

Nov. 20.

The first really cold, wintry day this season. The Washington Band, one of those formed

under the general banking law, and which stopped payment in Sept a short time since, gave notice that they would redeem their bills this day at 10 O'clock. The firm having several in their possession, stopped at the bank and were told to call tomorrow. The same around the door of the bank was somewhat amusing notwithstanding the circumstances. From thirty to forty individuals, all of whom had bills of the Institution in their hands and all of whom had been told to "call tomorrow" were standing around as if in doubt what Course to pursue. Some were cursing the bank while others were endeavouring to put a better face on the matter. One fellow accosted me with, "how much have you got?" Only five dollars, I replied. Well save be your d—d lucky. I've fifty dollars of the trash, holding out his hand towards me filled with the unfortunate rags. "If you consider me lucky, said I, suppose we exchange". "I've got one dollar", said another unfortunate wite, who I suppose was also a Loco-foco, and d—d if I don't

how it prevailed". "Well" said another, who was also a bit of a wag, to a negro who had just come up, "Clarky" how much have you got? "Sixteen dollars" replied the negro "Well" said the other if you go in there to ask for a spree they'll knock you down". "Gorramighty" what shall I do, can't stem dat no how you can fix it". "Tell you what it is Clarky I'll give you fifty cents in a dollar". "No you don't" said the negro, who appeared to understand his customer, "no come dat system over dis whole" At this period of the colloquy I left, reflecting on the evils of banking without adequate specie basis for the amount of issues.

Dec. 21.

Against the dictates of my better judgement I hired a hand on the 1st of May at the rate of five hundred & fifty Dollars per annum, under the impression that I could then select such a tenant for part of it, as I might choose, but no tenant had as yet been met with, and in consequence I am saddled with an expence beyond my ability to meet comfortably. Fortunately my wife is a good com-

midst, or it would be much more difficult for me to make both ends meet at the end of the year than I trust it will be. As it is, in case any unfortunate Contingency should occur, such as Sickness or loss of employment, I might be considerably embarrassed. The last hazard had one good effect, that of bringing me to the resolution never to place myself again in a similar predicament.

The cold since yesterday has increased considerably in intensity and I do not doubt the navigation of the Hudson will be closed by tomorrow morning.

Nov. 22nd

Had one of the "thousand ills which flesh is heir to", an inveterate Corn, extracted from my toe. The operation is very simple, and what is most singular to me, unattended with the least pain. The Operator applies an Ointment in the first place and then cutting round the Corn, takes a small pair of tweezers with which he draws the Corn out by the root. It is a substance resembling the bristles which compose a hair brush

and quite as stiff and hardy. The effusion of blood followed it, and may be it was perfectly easy.
How many poor devils would willingly pay a dollar to be well rid of such a disagreeable companion!

"Johnson boasted of being a good hater and of liking good haters. He was certainly a good hater himself — a scholastic one. Not content with hating indirectly he carried his enmity to whole nations. His prejudices were as strong as the prejudices of a great mind could be. He was inveterate. Now as all men have imitators, and as it is always more easy to imitate foibles and vices than virtues, there are many men who think themselves Johnsons, because simply they are good haters. They foster the infirmities of genius and think they are transferring its brightness to their own cloak of beauty. They bray like the ass and mistake their words for the roar of the lion. But bray and roar are words certainly, and both are disagreeable. Here however the comparison stops."

Happiness consists in making a right use of

creatures on all over providence has vouchsafed to me. Temperance in all things is an absolutely necessary ingredient in the cup.

Dec 2nd

Went in company with several others to view the launch of the Ship Stephen Whitney of 1000 tons burthen, built to replace the St Andrew, one of Grinnell, Minturn & Co's line of packets, lost just a year since. By claiming acquaintance with the builder obtained admission on board for myself and friends who had never before launched in a vessel. She had to slide 70 or 80 feet before touching the element which was henceforth to be her home, and at the glided slowly and majestically into the water the invitation to those on board was a peculiarly alarming one. A steamboat loaded with people very narrowly escaped being run into, as the Ship shewed somewhat suddenly from a direct line; and I saw one boy capsized in a small boat, but was unable to ascertain whether he was drowned or not. If he was not the welling he got will be

a warning for him not again to place himself in such close proximity to the large insect, which must inevitably create a great deal of commotion in the water. I then had I suppose six hours the whole time to view the sights, and it was all well worth seeing.

Nov 24th Sunday,

A rainy disagreeable day – just such an one as would suit a poor devil of a bachelor. I am the blues and be tempted to commit – suicide, but for myself, with a cheerful fire, and my cheerful cups, and little Hugo whose quiet antics are a never ending source of amusement to me I have got through the day quite pleasantly, a large portion of it I have beguiled with the adventures of "Richard Headley" one of the most amusing creations of this kind of character to his special, "Gentlemen." of whom by the way this epigram.

What the Gentlemen Boy could be
Puzzled many a learned elf,
Till time unveiled the mystery,
And Boy appeared a Gentleman self.

Nov. 25th

Evacuation day. Cold, rainy, and unpleasant. I don't know that I remember any evacuation day that was not. How very much of our happiness depends on the state of the weather, which we very can't control or variable as a weathercock! How the spirits rise and expand under the cheering influence of a bright skye, and how apt they are to chill' when clouds and darkness obscure the fair face of nature. Of the thrill' of the inhabitants of Terra del Fuego and of Spitzbergen, and wonder what it is that prevents them from committing suicide. Seeing the hills of nature in her Sportive mood would certainly be one of the strongest temptations to me to the commission of such an act — if anything could tempt me to do so foolish a thing.

Nov 26th

My friend Enos left us today in order to spend Thanksgiving at home, that is at Brookfield Town. We have been looking forward so long to this day that I scarcely knew how to enjoy ourselves, or how to

should be cold. "The pomp" then put I could have to suffer for he is a most ardent admirer of that description of pomp, all which is not? Celestial pomp? What ~~Heavenly~~ sweet fills my imagination at the mention of the name! could that I can behold that! could that I might, before retiring to the arms of Morpheus have for a short time on the glorious beauties! about may not be!

"Dec. 27th.

"My dear old Grandmother returned from Albany after an absence of two months.

"Dec 28.

"Thus opening day. Commenced with my Mother in law. Spent the rest of the day at the store. Thus it ended, which I by all means should always be honorably. We are all to err, — must be apt to err in our lot, and to shoot, with our mortal shaft, at the imaginary goal, when if we but could our eyes aimed rest and contemplate all the various forms of poverty, destitution and wretchedness, and contrast our scarcity with theirs, we can-

not but feel inwardly grateful to an overruling Providence who has preserved us in health, & who has kept from us the pinching ills of poverty.

In the course of ten months my Mother in-law has been blessed with three Sweet children, all of whom were there they cunning. 'Tis not a little amusing to listen to the innocent prattle of these sweet, dear babes! all of whom appear to think their own children the most beautiful, and each succeeding child more beautiful still. Some mother (they say Phebe) thinks the idea of the human species degenerating, and on the contrary thinks the world must soon attain perfection, simply because every child that is born is "the finest one that ever was!"

Dec. 29.

If people who accuse the Irish with being the most impolished people in the world, were acquainted suitably to our Irish gentlemen, that they ought to be the most polished, for no nation on the earth possessed more kind, [illegible]

Dec. 20.

My mother paid me a visit last evening and expressed herself much pleased at the alteration in my little boy. I have indeed had opportunities which I have seized of improving his mind, which I have found to be almost daily acquiring increased strength. I can now have without the least fear of Samuel's I have often heard people, "that none but a parent can judge of a parent's feelings." Nothing is more common for unmarried people than to ridicule the extravagant shows of affection for their children, particularly in mothers, which is to be seen on all occasions. And yet how natural is it for all of us in the same circumstances to show no big bit degree of weakness. Love for children is a holy and beautiful feeling, which should always be cherished, never eradicated.

Dec. 21. Sunday

Rainy and unpleasant. Spent the day at my Mothers in Law's.

Last evening paid a visit to

my uncle Hugo. I am only his wife. I thought he
is a young man husband with a wife and
three children, he lives in a first class house
for which he pays 1000 Dollars rent. He
keeps three servants, notwithstanding his fam-
ily comprise but six persons including himself
and a pupil. He is depended also on his
parent for support, and in case of accident
or sickness I do not believe he has ten dollars
dollars in reserve. His wife instead of exciting
him to economy and spirit of prodigality and
profusion, encourages it by the most extravagant
in dress, and entertainments at home and parties.
If his income was 10000 Dollars a year I could
not be surprised if he died in debt and left
his children dependent on their relations for sup-
port.

Doc 2d

"I've often wished that I had been
"Her life the humblest parent a year."
I often think it has a pity it is that I have
to be born a desperation to make a good
use of many Cannot-Have complaint-

to grateful & laudable generosity. I think I can
even well answer me as pious to be very gra-
tious and benevolent as him nothing is better
to it, like I think but I do remember my
very first act could be to please those men
but and chance to me legend the Greek
& count.

Dec 29

I write to nothing more than a compliance and
then as I acquire that I would give up
the surrendering duties of humanity, which
occasion and interrupts on last pleasing-
and in the obligations accomplish of a gentleman
farmer and the invigorating air of the country
I would feel a pleasure as far removed from
the smallness obligation of the Metropolis, as
can well be imagined.

Mr Gen Wood informed me a day or two ago
intended after the 1st of January to take
from the Lands of his Opt. and transfer to
me, the privilege of collecting the Rents on two
houses which he owns in Cherry St. I
will be something in that trying times, as the

Commencement of 1890.

Our youngest school commences just at dusk with a shitting of bloat. This I attribute entirely to running at play, as he is a member of the fire dept. which he joined about a year since. I should like to see an average of the lives of members of the Fire Dept. I do not believe it would run one thirty four, Geo. H.

I have just been seeing one of the Grimmer of one of the penny newspapers, not the least entertaining part of which, (as presenting a queer view of human nature) is the advertising portion. Here upon the surface of a small sheet of paper is presented a complete view of the world. Old young man time, every shade and colour, the rich and the poor, the good and the bad are mixed up, and jostled with one another, so here may be seen Industry, notices Idleness, Theatres, Motives and Purposes, Equipments for Sunday and week days.

Dec. 5. Oldridge

My brother has just left me after promising to dine with me on Monday. I cannot express how pleased I am with the progress my brother has made, for he has always been my favorite and I have felt and still feel a strong interest in his welfare.

Dec. 6

The weather for a week past has been warm as Spring and today particularly just how Summerlike pleasant. This is a sure indication of a mild winter.

I see by the Steam Ship Europe from England that a big Grand Ball has taken place in Dublin between a large body of the working classes or "Chartists" and the Military which has resulted in a number of deaths among the former. This I sincerely believe, and earnestly hope it be the beginning of the end of a Revolution which in time will hurl from their high places a privileged and corrupt Aristocracy, and remove the crimes, and unjust distinction between Classes, a distinction which elevates a few individuals

to the summit of wealth and power, while the vast majority of the nation are treated in the cold, and suffer for the common necessaries of life. "And (on the spirit which awoke with our own glorious Revolution is inspiring itself among the rotten and oppressive monarchies of the old world; and I trust its progress will be onward till the already crumbling structures topple to their foundations," and like the lovely fabric of a vision leave not a wreck behind."

&c. &c.

A young lady when asked why a Bachelor was of the singular number, replied, because it was from singular they did not marry.

I know of one married couple who like many other could only agree to disagree, until matters came to such a climax that they both endeavored to separate. On application however presented itself, and they, they possessed three sweet pledges of affection, and both were desirous of retaining two. In this dilemma

they [illegible] referred the matter to a relative
in the adjoining, that as the men but equally
well entitled to the children, they must both
wait until they get another, when they
might each take two. This natural se-
cret the puzzle to good humour.

Dec. 8.

Another rainy Sunday. Paid my rent for a visit
this evening.

Retired at once Mr. Samuel
Potter to his home that poverty and light-
hearted always go together, for when a man
has discovered the "magic and cream of entre-
gence feature", he turns to and eats by the
regular observation. In this way that
unfortunate philosophic accounts for the
frequency of light-hearted men in the poorest and
lowest parts of the city.

Dec 9.

Rain, rain, rain; Nothing for the last three
days but a perpetual drizzle. How the
inhabitants of those crowded where they
have perpetual want of sunshine do-

Cabin. "There are many humble men who are thus enabled to attend to business with which they might otherwise be unfamiliar by such accounts of the Nominees of National Conventions, on his Cabinet, and the method he took to enable him to pursue these gloomy journeys with some degree of comfort. — "The Whig Convention assembled at Harrisburg have nominated Wm. H. Harrison for President and John Tyler for Vice P. I succeed to the hero of Tippecanoe, at once but here I have much confidence of success. How things it is. There are on, evidently a commercial and agricultural prosperity elevating activity or peaceful acquisition for our prosperity, and yet anything that smacks of war, politics our warmest support. Several Locofocos rode into the Presidential Chair on the battle of New Orleans, Martin Van B on his "Kinderhook" popularity; Gen. Harrison will probably attain the same elevation as the "Tippecanoe" hero, and in the course of time Gen. Scott, as the hero of Niagara and

Friendly Town will be called upon to furnish the same Reward from a grateful people for performing what they are paid for—his duty.

Dec. 1st.

Wood, and Timmons of Maryland, not foreign, but domestic. The Inmates of Watson Inn, Bedford have been on his manor. He goes to join their Regiment of Foot, and have collected a formidable body of two or fifteen hundred people with arms and munitions of war, and amply stock the Garrisons of the Church. In this emergency the Governor of the State has made a requisition on the Chincopeague Militia of 1st for fifteen hundred men, and invited Commanders they are to proceed tomorrow to the Town of Boston to dissipate the assemblage. These misguided men have gone to the extent of forcing to acknowledge the title of their landlord to the lands they have so long held possession of, on the ground that he obtained his grant from a Crowned head. If this view of the question is correct, I suspect that many of the titles to lands

are held on no better tenure. Privately hoping that it will not be necessary to go to extremities,
Dec. 31.

The Parliament has been again assembled today and after considerable jangle and clashing dismembered, and ordered to meet tomorrow.

The greatest part of their malcontents are Catholicks, and this brings to mind the remarks of Cornelius Agrippa in a letter to Henry of Nettesheim in the time of queen Elizabeth, upon observations on that Catholick humour for the state of their government. I will here extract.

"Man is not like to another man as in the water, that's flat. They are a universal quagmire quite over, a great deale of pride, there is no thing in equilibrium of mind and water, they are the ingredients of a black puddling and turne only stirring together. That is all fat, but no consistence. That Q. Elizabeth has reclaimed the people here he might have been able to this day, for gold is not potent upon them minds."

"A Catholicke Spirit is generated from

from here; that makes him something; his body is built of pork and hominy, and the smoke him feeds, which is a little better meat, and bottomed chairs, are the ingredients of an ordinary Western man, which, when a voyage to the East Indies can be obtained, will go far the same quality; but being once set, you must have patience this will climb down the evening star, and climb up the morning star. All that time I'll good hand with a stranger."

Dec. 12

Attended this evening a public meeting, called to express to the nomination of the Hon. Winthrop Chamberlain, Calvin Copeland Chairman, and a number of vice presidents. The best speech was made by the venerable Edward Everett Hoar, and Samuel Hoar. The best feeling pervaded the assembly, and a confidence of success which, I trust, the result will justify.

Dec 17.

One of the Speaker's last evening selected to the position of electing candidates for the Presidency on striking ballots, and

observed that in every country we have the practice of choosing their rulers on the strength of their military genius, and claims, the tendency of the people in proportion of their becomes [illegible]. With general [illegible] however this quality is only a secondary merit, as much the largest portion of his life has been passed in the civil service of his country.

My time is [illegible] my examination my then this evening [illegible].

[illegible] on the military discipline, the military [illegible] of [illegible], and actual service, the method of an [illegible] student is not likely to have an opportunity of being [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] will be the best [illegible] of it's being [illegible]. The daughter [illegible] most probably thinking that the better part of valor [illegible], have concluded to [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible], and all the busy note of warlike preparation have ended like that of a certain [illegible] of [illegible], who

"with fifty thousand men,

Mary had up the hill, and then must climb again!"
Wesley.

Sunday. "I commenced learning last night, and continued until this morning, but the grammar not to learn it. This evening a-bout noth time warmed out of what we have almost forgotten; that winter is upon us!

"Nature is in his life of fate, matter this day that there is but one step from man to be despotism!" The sentiment is certainly just, as the history of almost every nation testifies. This I conceive to be the greatest danger of republics, and almost the only fear of those of the stability of our own, is from the excess of party spirit, the abuse of which is to produce disorder and anarchy. The only protection, it is the universal diffusion of education among all classes of people. Among the greatest bar to this successful operation exists in the ignorant and demoralized condition of the great mass of the people; and this brings to mind another apothegm, that "knowledge is pow-

fund to a few, but almost almost been burnt
to insignificant purposes." History abounds with
many, many melancholy instances of the truth
of this.

Lec 16.

State Color and country. Pictures to purchase
me a pair of Skates and bathing dress
day to myself endeavour to be a boy again.
It is a Spot I am passionately fond of, in
such weather, during my Childhood by days, but
since attaining to have mature age, opportu-
nities have been rare to enjoy it. It is
a most pretty sensation to have hand a book
of Thermometer in my right hip which
I wish to day and of that Continent
it is little to prevent me from putting my de-
sign into execution. I write by clothing
in that line which I consider to be about
the best, medicine in the whole Pharma-
copia.

Lec 17.

Hamlet be of a woman who, bathing a few
hours her Child was dead, called upon

a perfect dream for artists. "Is the climate like the Spring weather of Scotland?" asked I, "I want you should be of service to it." Certainly not, replied the doctor, nothing like it. "Which Spring would you recommend sir? Oh any Spring when I have a plate of soup and water."

I have just been reading the life of Byron. How the mind turns with disgust and loathing, from the contemplation of such a fearful catalogue of crime and blood as that mixed life exhibits, and to the milder and graceful character of some of our own distinguished citizens. Genius in a more advanced stage of humanity, it would seem, would be so that such a model could have been created without calling down upon the perpetrator the instantaneous vengeance of the Almighty. What they were, and that such a task and permitted to exist in the world, it extends an argument which I cannot in reason [illegible]

1 Oct 18

Why Washington has generally been [illegible]

it is owing to placing myself on Indian ground, or from some other cause it is difficult for me to say. Old habits intemperance in eating and drinking originate most of our complaints, so on the other hand it is but reasonable to suppose that temperance would be the most effectual remedy for them.

Dec. 19

My sister who has spent several days with us left today. Harriet though not a young woman is not by any means what I call old. She is exceedingly pleasant in all those little graces which charm in a feminine female character, and wear them all she does not show a commendable anxiety in their attainment. I hope and trust she may improve her.

Dec 20

The weather in all ages has been afflicting with a certain class of men who go to extremes in every thing. So this cold being the most zealous advocates of temperance and Abolition in the country.

With these men patriotism is nothing, or merely secondary to the grand object of their life, the success of their peculiar principles. In the advancement of these, they would see our beloved institutions trampled in the dust, and our fair fields deluged with the blood of our nearest and dearest friends. To liberate three thousand of Africans from slavery, or a [illegible] is not fatal for this moral pestilence, and thus upon the world at pauper, these men would not hesitate to plunge the nation in civil war and all its train of horrors. It however I must look a man I avoid him as a pestilence, I hope upon them as mad men, for mad they most unquestionably are, and it is a madness of the worst kind, and most difficult to cure. With many of these their misfortune rises of philanthropy, are formed in conjunction, or set in consignment of certain effects in their understanding, (to speak vulgarly) but a large portion I believe to be greedy. Time will show.

Dec. 21. Called today on my friend Wamsley

whom I have had the pleasure of giving the management of some Girls at Court in which he has given my employer satisfaction

Dec. 22.

Sunday. A tremendous Snow Storm has set in this evening, which while I now write at 9 am six to eight inches deep. Called on Mr Mathewson this evening, and took tea. Mr Mathewson has one of the best women I ever knew. As a wife she is most exemplary, and as a mother the very existence against corrupt ways in the Children if anything that is too indulgent. With a very delicate frame, besides being subject to Spinal pain & complaint, her habits of industry are without the trembling entering, and not to be known in any, unless it be prostrated by sickness. Evening at Mrs Ch difficulties she has to contend with, I often wonder that she sustains her self as she does. She has a noble mind.

Dec. 23.

Some excitement has transpired within a

day a hour at the Store, which gives me occasion to suspect there will be a change of the firm on the 1st of January or soon after. Whether so for as I am concerned it will be for the better or worse, I am at present wholly unable to determine. What Markham & Church will be taken into partnership, I know, the brothers have been uniformly kind and indulgent, and I shall always remember it with gratitude. In the four years I have now been with them, there has not occurred between us one unpleasant word. This is the more remarkable as when I commenced my engagements I was sensible of many deficiencies owing to the little experience I had in business. My want of omission or commission however they always looked upon with indulgent eyes, indeed I have thought in many instances they appeared more anxious to publish them than myself. The contract between them and my former employer is so great, that I have a thousand times thought I have done evil ... ingratulation (

Dec 24. Tomorrow is Christmas day. I must have been at it if from me that could, for being almost every time I passed in the street, with a Turkey, Goose, or some other Christmas thing. What numbers quantities of the poor birds have been murdered for this occasion—Sorely Many shall, if I may form moderately

Dec 25

Spent the day, with my wife and children, at my Mothers. My brother Charles was there & he & I had quite a gathering of the family. My Uncle Henry appeared quite pleased with my boy, which is quite a phenomenon, for he rarely ever noticed children. The Examiner of January 1st very pleasant. The only bad incident, are the consequences of over eating and drinking

Dec 26.

My brother-in-law Eldridge sent the maid-servant to bed this child last night—after an illness of several weeks. She was just one day older than mine. My employer

able to get a connexion, for the lines with the
(family) this morning at seven o'clock, and
the Store has been closed during the day in
Consequence. The Children must bury this af-
ternoon. The other funeral will take place to
morrow).

I feel so much anxiety to know the change
which I feel occurring in the Mental powers in
the form, that it is with difficulty I can
bring my mind to think on any other sub-
ject.

Dec 27.

Considerable snow has fallen this afternoon,
succeeded by rain. Attended the funeral
& burial services at four-Oaks P.M.
Going to the Church & the Grave, but few
persons were present.

Dec 28

I read to day in the Two Worlds a play by Collins
("The Strange Gentleman"). I should think it would prove
a good acting play. It is marked with that Dickens
originality of Style and Truth to nature.

This paralytic affection is growing into me, & pro-

Evening entirely changed in new prospect it contains a
cheap method of diffusing the current literature
of the day, though at small table something for
the pockets of the intellectual.

Yesterday read the President's Message. This
is a document to which many might attach an
importance which it by no means deserves.
The greater part of this can it take up with com-
ment on currency and banking, in which it is
to be feared that it is steps to in-
crease the worked money to the hands of Offi-
cers appointed by the President, than to banish
it but failing to convince me, and I cannot discern
it in any other light than as an ingenious
piece of sophism, well calculated to deceive
the People.

Sunday. Spent the day at my mothers with my wife.
My brother in law related a little anecdote which
he had heard of an Frenchman, who in expec-
tation of the accomplishment of his wife, was
anxiously waiting the happy event in an adjoin-
ing apartment. After a short time it was intimated
to him that he had a son boy. Of course he was

to Exhibit, and a fever of excitement to the time, but to the next moment he was told that his wife was Delirious of another man. This was unexpected and the Frenchman opened his eyes and staggered his trembles, without returning a single mark of gratitude for the Signal a favor. But within a little while after words was brought him that his wife had presented him with a girl, he started up, seized his hat, thrust it upon his head with a determined and desperate air, and rushed out of the room exclaiming, "I see I must put a stop to this!"

Another version of the same story is current among some of the old settlers of this city, which differs from the husband was a plain farmer, and on going to the servant of the house took his departure with "good God! Nancy is gone mistress Jugging"!

Dec. 30

I went with Lawrence this afternoon to see my brother Sylvester who is sick in Office, and we went altogether to explain, by me, at last.

Dec 31.

Wrote a letter to my aunt Mathies.

Mr. Gilbert informed me the day that it was their intention to retire from business on the 1st of Feby, but that they will require my services for a year to bring their books to a close.

January 1st 1844

Spent the day at my mother-in-law's. Mrs. made her three calls during the day. Severely cold. On account of the past year I do not find that I have increased my worldly wealth, unless the acquisition of a wife to my family may be so considered. I have however no cause to complain for with good health and in the society of my dear wife & the year, have glided away quite as smoothly and happily as I ought to expect=
ed.

1840

June 2. My brother Sylvester has just left. He gives me to understand that his intention in coming to town, was to endeavour to obtain some assistance from the estate. Of course whatever he obtains (and it can be but very little) must be advanced on the prospective value of the property, by the executors; and it cannot be legally appropriated like the children's portion of age. So far as I am concerned I have signified my readiness to abandon all claim to any portion of it, in favour of my mother and the younger children. My only regret is, that it is not more valuable: sufficient at least to support them in comfort.

June 7.

Pity on Charles who waits for his bread, for he has to draw on his intellectual resources & often at times when the mine is barren. He by a handsome perspective, and perhaps be fathomed by scientists. I can conceive of nothing more melancholy than a fine mind struggling under misfortune and poverty, and while its very heart strings are breaking, labouring to amuse the world with the sparkling of wit and the creations of fancy.

June 4.

I had been told that we are truly great when we can laugh at ourselves. Nothing can be more shining to the most common observer than the fact that a vast majority of mankind were never born to be great, if this constitute a test. I am almost daily convinced of my own insignificance.

June 5

Sunday. My brother Eldridge engaged to dine with us today but has failed to keep his appointment. Before my marriage I was pretty regular in my attendance at church, but since I have had been the pleasant that I felt no disposition to break the day in order to have perhaps a little more time or more better than myself. I think I believe a very large portion of church going people put forth considerable, that I think the tendency is good, and that every head of family should set an example in this respect for their children to follow. We often have some peculiar views on the subjects of religion, and among all the different sects, each of which has its and every thing to its and each of which are morally certain of going to heaven, it is not a little difficult for a young

men whose opinions are unsullied, to whose chosen
room. While a youth I attended the church of the
Rev Mr Baldwin in Brick [illegible] my seat the same as yours
Never shall I forget the feeling of glow & terror
with which those of the discourses of that Revd.
Author of Illumination impressed me. Often in my bed
room I started with the gloomy Spirits he had con-
jured up, and from absolute fright have covered my head
with the bed clothes to shut out the phantoms. Of
Religion always came attached in the gust he taught it
invested it with it terrors — my mind was never
never to be a Religious mind. I have never been able to
eradicate the disagreeable impressions produced on those
occasions, and since that I have a Religion &, have en-
tered a Church of that denomination. I think always I
thought Religion should be inculcated by pleasing and
happy allusions and illustrations, not with damnation
hell, fears, and threatenings. This imperfect for
a feeling produced by terror to be inspired with love for
the object of all worship.

Jenny B.

The Critic have altered their intention of leaving
from business and my projected ride. Shall probably

Retired in Quiet. Tho, I presume not entirely with his Nephew Dunscombe. In this connection I cannot help thinking that it is a fortunate circumstance for them jointly that they have such a contrast. This Nephew is left to his own devices would never attain a station beyond the one he now occupies. Though he has had good advantages, he cannot even construct a sentence of good English, and he is deplorably deficient in general information. Such a person is certainly not calculated to add either to the dignity or respectability of the firm.

Jan 7.

Attended the Drury Theatre this evening principally to see the Impersonation of Nicholas Nickleby. It proved disappointing. It is true I have yet but seen a mere dramatization in which I have not been disappointed. This one is a miserable abortion; and having been written before the completion of the novel, they have been unacquainted with the as finely conclusions generally are, this is the case.

Jany 8.

This is the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans which gained for it's hero the highest honor in the

gift of the Republic.

George Fillmore to day, after an absence of six weeks.

Aug 9.

The Governor's Message made its appearance to day. It is a very able document, though extremely long. I see in the papers a vote of thanks by the City Council to the Chairman and the delegates for the part one of whom I was. We hardly deserve it, but as a, it has the party for them are few, who are not professional politicians who have labored more in the cause.

Aug 10.

My mother has spent the day, and evening with us. I learn with some surprise that my brother Sylvester intends to remove to the city, and that he is endeavouring to make arrangements to enter into the Exchange business. I trust that circumstances may be for the best.

Aug 11

My brother Sylvester called in on his way to the Store. His object was to ask me whether

I could advance fifty dollars on a note of My Uncle Henry's. Thought in duty myself I promised ~~him~~ to let him have it if I could raise it for him.

My mother spent the night with us, and left this morning. She appears as much pleased with my choice, as I thought he would from.

My friend Hardman is also well pleased with my design of a journal, that he has commenced one himself.

I have last evening a letter from Ashly, who wrote from Paris. He is much better pleased with the French Metropolis than the English. The latter he says has a dingy, smoaky, and old appearance while the former is directly the reverse, the houses all being painted light or cream colour, with venitian blinds which gives them an agreeable appearance. He professes himself much pleased with the ladies.

January 12

Sunday. Spent all the day at home. Have just returned from a visit to my mother. Have a long conversation with Uncle Henry principally on

family affairs. He talked my mother a good deal on her fondness for my boy. Said he: "The other day at the breakfast table she commenced with, 'Have you observed something peculiar in Johnny Chilton, something singular?' I began to think the boy had some dreadful deformity which I had escaped my notice. 'No, dear! What is it, is it his hump out of shape, the boy's mallet, or any other object?' 'Pha! what a foolish man you are, said she; 'haven't you noticed that the Chilton is remarkably smart'!

Aug 13.

My brother Sylvester has just left after being here a week.

Our City, that became, since the annexation of the Manhattoes, famous for murders, rapes, and every species of crime, literally a day passes unmarked by some act of desperate villainy or atrocious wickedness, and it is no longer safe for a female to walk the streets alone. The Mayor of the city is a knave, the Municipal authorities an ignorant set of nobodies, the city watchmen are more on the spot when wanted, and the police are all no better than they should be.

There came a slight fall of snow last night, and the merry sleigh bells have jingled incessantly all day. With me proper the passion for sleigh riding appears to me to be a kind of mania, for if the ground be but barely covered it is sufficient to set the whole city agog. On the occasion the poor horses are the greatest sufferers. For my part I can only derive any great degree of pleasure from an amusement which has been not unjustly compared to sitting on a chair with one's feet in a bucket of ice-water. On a common day however it is very good sport.

June 14th.

I have just returned from the Store of my brother-in-law where I have been assisting him in endeavouring to balance his Ledger. He has a very imperfect acquaintance with Book Keeping by double entry and a great many errors have crept into his books. As I came up I perceived a number of persons talking earnestly together and on inquiry ascertained that a man had been apprehended for stabbing his wife, making the second on this week. She is likely however to survive the

Langmuir Some trouble, for he cut his own throat immediately afterwards & may not be effectually cut to enquire to-day. Heavy yet dry.

Aug 15

Intelligence of a most fearful catastrophe has reached the city to-day. The Steam boat Lexington from Providence - Boston with about two hundred & fifty passengers was off Stonington port, on the night of the 13th took fire, and before she could be run ashore, burned up, and out of the whole number of those on board, about four or five hundred, but three have escaped to relate the heart rending tale. I can imagine nothing more terrible than such a fate. In the depth of winter and but two miles from land, in one short hour, all this scene of human life must been blotted from existence as it were, on the very threshold of their homes. Ah, who can tell the bright hopes and fond anticipations which in that hour perished miserably? Who can depict the heart-broken anguish which the intelligence will cause in the bosom of the numerous friends and relations of those unfortunate persons?

Jan 16 There is some reason to hope that the number of passengers on board the unfortunate Lexington was somewhat exaggerated though at the very best it is horrible. Capt Williams of Newark, an acquaintance of my friend Craig and one of the survivors of it was in the city, he was fifteen hours on a bale of cotton, and notwithstanding the cold he escaped without injury, and to day he was quite well. The companion who was on the same bale with himself, expired from cold and exhaustion.

My brother Sylvester went to have left-teeth for him this morning. Yesterday he called on me and I advanced him a part of the sum he wanted, though it was long ere it became necessary for me to part with a dollar day the present of some little debtor.

Jan 17.

Called on my brother in law Martin who came in town yesterday.

The loss of the Lexington is now the sole topic of conversation. It is said to day another person was picked up, but

that he had not the fear of God before his eyes. Can any thing be quite certain in reference to this disaster, there must either be great mismanagement or incompetence, on the part of the Captain Had the boat been stopped, the strong current of air made by the rapid progress of the boat would have ceased, and consequently the fire would have been checked. The small boats might then have been launched without danger of swamping from the action of the current made by the paddles.

Jan 18.

Have been engaged at the close of my bookkeeping part of the evening in assisting to adjust this book. Made some appropriations to account.

Jan 19

Sunday. Have been indoors all day. Have read my Bible, and a good part of the Book of Common Prayer. — Also, excepting one nap, Coleridge and Austin Foster's Confessions, and spent part of the evening. Began to form Plans concerning my Christian duties.

Jany 20. Part of this evening spent in the Coffee house with some Ladies — the Evening spent with Engs at the Olympic Theatre, — a very fine house. The pieces were the Olympic Revels from Boz, or rather the Drawing Master, and a part of Nicholas Nickleby dramatized — that which has become connected with the former Comedy. I was much better pleased with this than the other, specimen of Dramatizing which I have yet seen at the Theatre.

Jany 21.

There is in my life so much Commonness, that some days I scarcely know what to write. The same daily routine of the Store, occasionally broken in upon by something out of the usual track, does not afford much worthy of Record. The biography of a book keeper would require a much more graphic pen than mine to make it interesting — that of Boz's for instance. Yet does not the life of Wm Linn Newcastle the amiable book keeper of Thorndale Boat of unachievable one. Why I will not nothing but write, —

or Thursday — thing is it is almost impossible to detach him from his books, or he does not love his home and quiet enjoyments! He was an enthusiastic admirer of his profession, and looked to nothing beyond it. His mystery I should indeed feel miserable if I thought I were to be chained to a desk all my life; and yet I do not see at present how under Heaven I can improve my situation. I ponder my mystery with the same reflection, many a poor devil it costs off his mystery.

Jany 22.

I saw to day a specimen of the Daguerreotype, being a view of an interior of an apartment. It had something the appearance of a fine Aquatint engraving, and is certainly very beautiful. How it may be improved in the dark, and this on a sudden to effect a great variation. The only objection to it, is the cost of the apparatus, and the great care and delicacy of the process. It is probable however that will be in this, as in every other science material improvements.

Snow all day tomorrow in town this evening

June 23. Made a call this morning on my Mother-in-law ~~this morning~~ this morning. The weather has set in extremely cold — the wind whistles constant and plays it's chime on the grate, and — verily I can think of nothing else.

June 24.

Had the pleasure this day of seeing the process of taking a Photogenic drawing, or the Daguerreotype it is called. Mr Vogel displayed the process gratuitously at Vauxhall Gate. In a short time he produced a most striking beautiful view of the City Hall and Park, and from its being the very impress of nature of course nothing could be more true.

June 25

I have been in a ferment all this afternoon. A Customer came in, at whom I at first demurred, and gave him a Receipt accordingly — for Hundred dollars, but on counting it a second time immediately after he left, I found but three hundred & fifty. I put off immediately in pursuit of him but was unable to find him. If he feels the disposition, he can return me out of fifty dollars, which would be unpleasing

May 26 Sunday. My father has been with us the greater part of the day, and brother Albridge spent the evening with us. George and myself, called on my mother this afternoon, and breakfast on him.

Have been looking over Grant's life of Benedict Arnold. In a review of this mans life, I cannot help calling to mind Shakespeare's reflection over the dead body of Caesar, - "He evil that men do, lives after them, The good is oft interred with their bones." Benedict Arnold never consummated his act of treachery, all his minor offences would have been forgotten, and his name instead of being linked with the murder of his Countrymen, would have gone down to posterity enrolled among the heroes of the Revolution. By this damning act of perfidy all his brilliant exploits were overshadowed, and even the act of his life most honorable and heroic against him.

June 4 27

Have been assisting my father in law, with his harvesting this evening. They are in a quandary, and are under the impression that they have gone behind hand though not yet certain of the fact. If they have, their expenses, Pete thinks they have done well.

June 28. This morning about 2 Oclock a fire broke out in the block of buildings by Hotel, Ware & Smith &c and before it was got under control about two millions of property. The large Store of Hotchkiss alone containing several entire Cargoes of coal, besides various other descriptions of merchandize. The frequency of fire in the business portion of the City is exciting the most attention, as but little doubt appears to exist that in most cases they are caused by incendiaries. It must surely be the plan under a good one, to abolish insurance on buildings altogether, and thus do away with the means of raising money.

Commenced snowing at daybreak and continued till 2 Oclock P.M.

June 29.

Another fire at 10 Oclock last night which consumed nine stores in Pearl St. nearly opposite the Post Office House supposed to be set on fire. This morning I had just sat down with my friend George to a game of Backgammon, when another alarm sounded. We

found it to proceed from several frame buildings in Second St. on the east side of the Bowery which were entirely consumed. We have just returned and while I am writing the fire bells are again calling the firemen to their ordinary duty.

It is now raining quite fast. During the storm last night was that of Jacob Di Cou whose my friend Clark is employed.

Jany 30

Have been employed all this morning in writing a communication in relation to fires and the Fire Department in the Clayton.

Jany 31

My mother paid us a visit today.

Received a letter from the gentleman to whom I gave a receipt on the 25th for four hundred cts. stating that his cash amounted to 50 dollars more than it ought, consequently that the error was his own.

Feby 1

During last night a Snow Storm set in which has continued nearly all day and the sleighing is now capital.

Quarter day. How many poor devils would not

riding by the "Knocks into the middle of next week"
if by it they ended the use of "saying up"
Called in Company with Mr. & Mrs. Abel, on the Summers
of his house in order to notify them that I would for
the future to be the Agent for Lending and collecting
Feb 2. Sunday
My brother in law Austin called on us today.
We had jointly engaged to dine with my Mother
but came to the conclusion we had better stay at
home. Called on my Mother after dinner in order
to apologize for the non-performance of our en-
gagement. Finished the day with a quiet Eve
ning at home.
Feb 3rd Monday
Have but just returned from my Mothers where
I left my wife to spend the night. My friend
Sturge accompanied me. We had a fine time
spent the greatest of the evening very pleasantly at
Cards with the Doctor. During dinner, heard a
very loud fall in the Kitchen, which proved to be a
piece of the Ceiling.
The weather this evening is extremely cold.

1864. Paid my landlord Mr Stoddard one of last quarters rent, and notified him of my intention to leave on the 1st of May

Another fire occurred last night in Rockford, Ill of which the Register contained a[illegible] account this morning. It was a fatal one because the walls were left standing, and this morning they were blown down by request of some, and several persons had narrow escapes. Two have been got out, but dead, and it is supposed there are others yet buried.

My brother in law, left here this morning for Wisconsin

Feb 5

"The world's an Oyster," was the remark of one of Shakspeare's heros, and there are moments when I am disposed to think so, myself. I think it would puzzle a man to tell wherein lies the enjoyment yet to me there does appear to be an indescribable pleasure in it. I have sometimes found that a certain set among the luxuries of the table (that meat[illegible] spring from interesting associations) I shall fish and I think of no other way of accounting

for it ~~then~~ except on the principle of mutual sympathy.

Feb 6

A fire took place this afternoon immediately opposite our house which consumed several frame dwellings. Was informed while at the store that my dominion was endangered and came home in hot haste and not a little frightened — happily without cause.

Feb 7

"There is nothing new under the sun", was once remarked by somebody — no matter whom. So far as I regard myself to day, it is applicable.

A writer in an Albany paper addressing the Rev. J. Hatch in regard to Catholicism thus concludes his communication. "I substitute myself the author of the late pamphlet entitled "The Bible Politics Exposed" from the Scriptures" which pamphlet is for sale at the store of Mr. Wm. C. Little.

This Evening me of ~~me~~ an anecdote I have heard of a certain Mr. Wood who was one of the elders of a Presbyterian church, and a flour merchant. At one of the meetings held for Mrs

who had been commenting on a certain passage of Scripture brought his exhortation to a close in some thing like the following style. "Now my dear brethren and sisters who can doubt the authenticity of this passage? you may rest assured it is not certainly true, as that Poole have tomorrow two barrels of best western flour, which I will be happy to sell cheap". At this point the Speaker was interrupted by the presiding elder exclaiming, "hut! hut! brother Wood this is not the proper place or time to advertize your flour."

Yours &c

I have been troubled for some time past with Rheumatism in my right hip, which was so much worse to-day that I thought it best to stay at home and "doctor" it particularly as the weather was raining and very cold.

I heard during the afternoon that the Store of my brother in law Packer &c. for last night was not insured with the Contents. I think he informed me but a short time since that he was insured by insurance, or words to.

Monday Feb 9. The day has been rainy, and I have not left the house during the day. My Mother in law came out this morning and spent the most of the day with us. George has been at home all the afternoon so that altogether this has passed quite agreeably.

Feb 10

This morning while George and myself were engaged at Backgammon the bell rang and I went to see in the lower part of the city Went in quest of it but soon found the alarm was false one. On our return Mayor at the Council Chamber. The Board of Aldermen was in session. "Truly" some men are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them". Whether Christ intended no small portion of that sentence the body must have had "greatness thrust upon them", for it is very evident nature never intended them for great men.

Feb 11

The weather has changed cold.

Have been employed

all the evening in making a Valentine sheet for my brother-in-law.

While writing this the bells are again ringing for fire in the 5th Ward.

Feb 12

I have determined not to keep the books. I am occupy the evening year at anything like the former rate of Ens ($4.50) and have to informed the landlord. I do not intend to be in search to obtain a house for I am persuaded the existing rates cannot be maintained. It is an uncertainty — that while trade is prostrated, labour unemployed, and the prices of Real Estate much below the past standard, — produce abundant, and cheap also in comparison to what it has been, — it is inconsistent that Rents should be as high as ever.

Feb 13

After no small degree of trouble got my brother-in-law's books straight to day. They have till by the trade of the past year, fourteen hundred dollars.

Grandma spent the day with my wife, and her sister Ann the evening.

Feb 14 Can think of nothing to write this anecdote to which Prince is one of the pages, and which goes to show the importance of calling things by their right names. An old woman questioned her son, on his return from church as to the name of the preacher who officiated, Rev. Dan Hopkins "Huggs." Huggs! said the old woman "I'll learn you better than that," and she, at the same time applying some pretty sharp raps on his head and ears. O! "Mr Huggs" Mr. Huggs said he. The following Sunday on being asked what the text was on, the reply was "Mr Jesus."

Feb 15

Prince Post has just left. We have spent quite a pleasant evening at Cards. Part of the day have been house-cleaning. There are very few books to be obtained for small families little ones. She loves good print all the backbones that have gone up are packed. It is surprising how soon people come to forget their primitive manners and acquire a taste for every thing extra

again.

Feb. 16 Sunday.

I have traversed this day about one third of the city in search of a house. Rents are still very high at present. Perhaps it is better for me to sit down in quiet under even the ills of life when I apprehend I can't like every thing I do. will find this level. I have not been able to day having my pretensions to respectability of appearance, the least of which was less than $450. and the majority of small two story houses are from five to six hundred!

Cloudy P.M. Rain at night.

Feb. 17

Attended the Olympic this evening, principally to kill time. Have been confined for three days past with an inflamed Rheumatism in my right hip, so that I walk with difficulty and Pain.

Feb. 18.

Got a plaster of Burgundy Pitch and applied it to my hip in the hope of relieving it

On my return last night from the Theatre

stopped at my office for my wife, who was spending the evening there with some of the Company. Started Home for the first time. Office for this business must be acquired, it cannot be inherited. Not who appeals to think with the maxim "while we live let us live" — indulges himself with a taste for those expensive luxuries, which he cannot afford, while I sincerely suspect many of his Creditors have to whistle for their money.

Reflections on the subject of living are not a little queer though there are a great many imbued with the same or similar principles,

Feb 19.

The day has been foggy and damp. As we had little to do, took the opportunity to walk through the principle part of Brooklyn in search of a chemist. Thought if Pemberton could rent a small, neat cottage-like house at a cost of about 250 dollars, it would be sufficient inducement for me to leave the city. Though there are a great many of that description of buildings in Brooklyn, yet

I saw none to let. This description of property does all fined occupants.

Feb 20

Has been warm and pleasant as a summer day

The plaster I applied to my hip last appears to give me a little Rheumatism, if the relief is permanent. I had no idea there were so much Nitrogen in Burgundy Pitch, and were fearful I should be obliged to take medicine. My general health has been so good that I find it difficult to persuade myself I ever stand in need of physic, and my dislike to it such that I apprehend there is little danger of my ever emulating the example of a certain man I have heard of who had inscribed for his epitaph "I was well, and wished to be better, I took physic, and here I lie". After all one inclines to think "ever exercise and diet the best medicines, except in extreme cases.

Feb 21.

Sister Harriet has been sick and during the day

Feb 22.

Really can think of nothing to write — all somebody

could there be anything more under the sun!

My boy is six months old today.

Feb 23 Sunday

This afternoon in company with Jennie Geo. Sanford went to the Catholic burying ground. It is an area comprising four or five acres of ground and though it has been in use but six or seven years the mortality among this portion of our population has been so great that it is already long filled. We counted no less than fourteen open graves and eight that have apparently been covered this present month to-day.

Feb 24

My wife has been at her mother's all day, and I have come down and take tea there.

Lizzie Harriet came down to invite Grandma to my mother's.

Feb 25

12 Oclock C. I have just returned from spending the evening at Mr Curtis's in 15th St. A small and sociable company made the time pass quite pleasantly. Such parties are much more agreeable to me than

Saugerties,
Feb. 26.

Sent little Gage to Rhoda's to show him and compare notes with their little Geo. Ah, what a well spring of enjoyment is there in the daily development of an infant. How much of Heaven there is in its atmosphere, its innocent happy laugh — and nothing else. When looking at my own Elsie and watching the ever-toward yet graceful position to throw himself into, I have often wondered that there could be found any who could look into the face of such a child and harm it.

Feb 27.

Rain all day. In Congress the principle subjects of interest are the Treasury Bill and a general Bankrupt law. Now thus all are becoming bankrupt; people are awake to the importance of such a law.

Feb. 28.

My sister Sarah Ann is quite sick. Her coming down here has been seriously disappointed [illegible] in the first hopes she & Chas. [illegible] on the marriage. Her husband is a drunk-

and the life is destined to be embittered by her conduct. Though they have been married but little more than a year the aboriginals are already numerous and are daily becoming more frequent. Their temperament is extremely nervous and in proportion to the high hopes they formerly entertained of the present institution

Feb 29

Young made little Geo. quite a neat present of a coral necklace this evening.

Called on my mother and took tea there. I am sorry that Henry is not likely to obtain the office he sought for. Doctor McDermit it is said has been nominated to the Governor for the office, and it is most probable he will be confirmed. I do not think he merited or made at my table, though the appointment would be a good one.

Had a letter from my friend Colby, who is in Sandusky, in the Edward Gaily Volunteers. He speaks in high terms of the hospitality and kindness paid by the English. He had

been introduced to the Queen, and had there most of the Lions which London is so famous for. The little thing took that, as a very good one.

March 1st Sunday.

I have again spent the whole day, nearly in hunting for a horse, and in company with friend George have walked I suppose ten or twelve miles.

I saw a horse in 13th Oxford which I think would be my object. Quite a neat low stout built one, with a fine good eye in which is a glass one and front knee, and it is so high up that the ears do not show and stable mates do in the country. The occupant who was standing on the steps invited me to enter and view the premises.

I suppose it is something of an original in his way. I observed a portrait of the Duke in one of parlours, and on my remarking it "yes" said he "We think it like the Duke, though some people say no if it would for him Pounds have been fair than Lord Hollo. hates it."

March 2

Near 12 Oclock P. M. Have just returned from my mothers where we have spent the morning.

March 3. Have learned today that George Wood is to retire from business on the 1st May and that John is to continue alone. Success to him.

March 4

Mrs and Mr John paid us a visit this evening. We are anxious for them to take part of our house with us which we think might be rendered mutually advantageous.

March 5

Last night we had a thunder storm and lightning during nearly the whole night. The weather has been for a fortnight past very warm and blamed as Summer. Little George is quite sick though somewhat better this afternoon, than he has been. The Doctor has been here and prescribed for him.

March 6

I have been very much frightened about my little boy to and he is still quite sick, though apparently somewhat better this evening. I can think of little else while he continues in

such a state, which I hope and trust may not be long.

March 7

Little George appeared well this evening and I trust he will soon be well.

The Great Western arrived today from England bringing news forty two days later - being one week almost without precedent, since there has been a regular line packets established. The Queen was married on the 10th Feb. on which occasion the usual demonstrations of rejoicing were had. The prince has been voted an allowance of £30,000 a year, and has already been made a Major General of the army. Alas! poor King and Queenridden England, you have to pay dearly indeed for your splendid display of puppetry. Groaning under the weight of a national debt which each succeeding year only makes heavier - while seven eighths of your population are suffering, actually suffering for the comforts of life, you can yet pay eighty thousand pounds to a man - for what? For condescending to become the husband of your Queen; and you hope the father of a lot of little Royal Highnesses! Good Heaven when will the English people have the good

to see Thursday of such an ardent member and learn to govern without the use of such gibberish?

Mch 8 Sunday

George and myself smoked out this afternoon as far as 32d or 33d Street

My little boy is improving gradually

Mch 9.

He appears much better this evening.

Yesterday hired the house 69 Thirteenth St for three years from the 1st May at three hundred and twenty five dollars.

Mch 10

Little George continues to improve though he has suffered so much that he is still very weak

Heard an anecdote of Henry Clay which goes to show that he must be a good whist-player. At the conclusion of the game when each one paid ~~two~~ one cent Mr Clay requested the party to pause a moment, and remarked "that in all his experience as a whist-player he had never

I know a coincidence like the present," and then observed that they each held cards of a different colour, that each card was a two spot, and that the trick was equally divided, which proved to be the case.

Mch 12

On the night of the 10th I was taken with a chill, pains in my limbs, and sore throat, and had to keep my bed during the whole of yesterday. I am felt better today though I do not, as to be unable to attend to business. The sudden changes in the temperature are most extraordinary. There is no dependence to be placed on it, and like doctor Johnson I believe I shall die more than ever impressed with that truth.

Mch 13 I have attended to business today though I have felt far from well. A queer and most disagreeable sensation in my head, a bewildered, dizzy and most disagreeable feeling. I have never felt any thing like it before

Mch 16

The feeling in my head continued to grow worse and I have been incapacitated until today for doing

anything. Yesterday took some medicine which effected a complete revulsion internally and to day feel as though I were really getting well.

March 17

My little boy appeared much better today to day. We have been able to get a laugh from him occasionally, which has not been the case for two weeks before.

I have been thinking that I do not have exercise enough for the good of my health, and I look forward to our removal to [illegible] as a good change for us all. I intend to rise early every morning and work a short time before breakfast in the garden, and then the long walk after breakfast will I think constitute a pretty fair portion of exercise. The climate of this portion of the city is much purer, and my family will be likely to enjoy better health, than at present just now in the midst of such unpleasant and such filth which when acted on by the heat of summer, is anything but agreeable.

Mch 18. The Steam Boat British Queen arrived today after a passage of sixteen days. The news she brings is not of much importance.

A Fracas took place in Wall St this morning between Robt. Wilde who resigned from the Custom House of the Manhattan Bank yesterday, and Jonathan Thompson One of the Directors. Wilde attacked Thompson who is an old man and one of our most respectable citizens, and with a cane injured him considerably.

Mch 19

We was obliged to give bail in $2000.

Rainy and disagreeable. My wife has been at her mothers all day, and took tea dinner and tea there myself.

One of the arrivals in the British Queen was Genl. Skinner the Belgian giant who is eight feet six inches high, and well proportioned. It is said he can raise three ordinary men and shake them out at arms length with apparent ease.

Mch 20

My brother in law Rockett has shown himself in

his time cooled within a short time and he proves to be as I always predicted he would, a most precious scoundrel!. He is in arrears for board several hundred dollars, and his excuse has always been "hard times", and difficulty of procuring money. At the same time hardly a night has passed in which he has not been absent from home until 12 or 1 o'clock ~~at night~~. Some two or three months since he obtained from my brother-in-law A. G. B. their note for four hundred & twenty five dollars, under the pretence that he wished to use it as collateral security, and that he would return it in fifteen days. Fifteen days passed, and as much pressure, when A. G. B. received a kind notice reminding them that the note in question was lodged there for collection. On making inquiry they ascertained that the note had been given away by N—t as a business note, notwithstanding they had his receipt stating the conditions on which ~~the~~ it was obtained.

Here then is a case of actual fraud.

March 21.

But this is not all. About a month since

his time 100 $ fine* and he was awarded by the Ins. Co. about a thousand dollars for damages sustained. All this time he has been getting deeper and deeper in debt to his wife, months, which he has promised to discharge so soon as he obtained his insurance. This he said he could get at a sacrifice of some fifty dollars which he was unwilling & reluctant to. Knowing this, and not having the highest opinion of his integrity, I yesterday made it in my way to stop at the Ins. Office in question, and ascertained that the money had been paid over to him several weeks since.

March 22 Sunday

He has neglected his wife, ever since marriage and has rendered her perfectly miserable, so much so that she appears as if going into a decline.

March 23

I quite lose from my heart, though poor girl she was wound on every side in time, of his character and his own eccentric conduct was enough to open the eyes of any one not wholly blinded or infatuated as must have been the case with Ann.

Mch 24 Rain all day. The Whigs have nominated Davie Gorham for Mayor. The only objection I have heard made to him is on account of his being so young, only about 25.

Mch 25

Frank George was taken sick last evening with the same symptoms as I myself had last week. He has been confined to his bed during the day, and my wife has been trying to "doctor" him with some success as he appears to be better this evening.

Mch 26

Spoke to Jno. Abel in reference to my salary for the present year. He told me he had that of meeting it on same as the past year provided I was satisfied. Told him I had done what I was anxious to keep out of debt if possible. He said he would let me know by the 1st of May what he would do.

Mch 27

George is quite unwell yet with sore throat and is confined to his bed. My little boy also is much troubled with sore throat.

Brooks Eldridge has been here this evening

He is out of employment there being nothing whatever doing in his line of business. Though his engagement was made for a year, yet being ill he felt no objection to receive pay for doing nothing, and so absolved his employers from their contract, with the understanding that if times improved he would renew the engagement. In the mean time he will endeavour to pick up something for himself.

Graham has declined the nomination for Mayor, and J. P. Phoenix is nominated in his stead.

Mch 29 Sunday

Was quite unwell last night with sore throat which still continues to afflict me. George is still sick and confined to his bed. His nurse Nellie is pretty and altogether we are a complaining set. George has not received attention as his brother and his sister-in-law have both spent most of the time with him and he has had someone to sit up with him since the first day he went to bed. Indeed upon the whole, I think the boys have too much done for them. Excess of kindness is not kindness at its opposite.

Mch 29 Rain all day, and this evening attended with thunder and lightning. George still continues sick.

There is a rumour in town that the Governor vetoes the Registry Law. If this is so I for one will not vote for him. I commence to fear of the necessity of such a law that I am almost determined never again to vote at an election in the city, while the present corrupt system prevails.

Mch 31

Went with my wife this evening to hear the Oratorio of David. Am no judge of music but should think this a very splendid affair.

Have had for some days a pain in, and for me altogether new kind of sore throat, to called in the doctor this afternoon who tells me I have an Ecatarrh.

April 1.

Attended an auction for the sale of Green County and purchased a number quite cheap.

Have felt for some days very unwell, mainly from the effects of this Ecatarrh.

April 2 The legislature has been in session the signature of the Gov. and gone into effect immediately so far as the dividing the city into districts and having the election on the 3d Monday in June part of the law and it is most probable it will be immediately.

The prevailing topic of conversation is the probability of a war with England on the N.E. boundary question. They say Parliament on Tuesday will be upheld, still a war for such a cause or indeed for any cause between two such nations is much to be deprecated.

April 3.

Dined at my mother-in-law's Miss Eliza absent. Emma is to marry Mr Long & a Mr Ashby. I regret that Pete not entertain the most favourable opinion of him in the matter, and fear she will regret the choice when too late. His character is not, or has not been a good one. Marriage however may have a good influence upon him, and it is to be hoped so.

April 4.

The Methodist Book Concern not [illegible] this session but without doing much damage one

got under.

Called on Post who is confined to his bed with sore throat precisely similar to Lange's. Found him just up in a small close room with a coal fire, and that enough to throw one into a fever if not already in a high nervous state of irritation.

April 5 Sunday

Worked all day. Occupied myself attending to my flowers, a considerable part of the day and made a call on Mother in law in the evening from which I just returned.

April 6

Power came this afternoon that the Volunteers on the 60th Regiment were in a state of mutiny & that some of the Military were sent to the scene of action. At Power coming home at night, they were returning & being to the Railway. Did not learn particulars.

April 7

This evening attended a Repetition of the Oratorio of Elijah. It gave me much satisfaction the first time that I had ever had to Repeat at

The turn out on the Cotton Mills here turns out after all to be nothing at all, more than a strike for higher wages. The troops must have the battle ground but scare had in vain for an enemy.

April 8

All is activity and excitement with the two great parties of the day, Whigs and Locofocos — in view of the approaching election. The Whigs, satisfied that the election needs purifying, as a guard against frauds on the Ballot Box have carried through the Legislature a Registry law. The Locos, on the other hand choose to think the law an encroachment on the right of universal suffrage, meaning I suppose, the right to vote whenever, and as often as they please — and of course they oppose it tooth and nail. They are trying by every means in their power to create and foster a spirit of opposition to this most righteous law, and by inflammatory appeals to the passions and prejudices of this class of people they will most probably succeed in their object.

April 9

The news from Connecticut is of a most cheering character for the Whig cause. The

majority has been largely increased since last year from about 1900 to 4500.

April 10

Attended this evening a meeting of the different Democratic Clubs in the City at National Hall where a collation was prepared for them in which "Lager Beer" was the principal beverage. After eating and drinking this pile the Clubs formed and marched in procession to Democratic Hall.

The Locofocos have been parading the streets also all the evening with music and banners, but such a sorry looking set of devils it has seldom been my lot to behold.

April 11

Went to Austin's Prohibition, principally in reference to Pickett of whom I have more or less curiosity to daily obtain a view.

The evening train was largely in waiting at Elmira for flowers. Found a total of four of no small service to those Regiments who like myself are anxious to remember.

Mrs. Dean made at a cost of a dollar

what I would have had to pay a Confederate for

Made quilt & darning &c. that little Geo. has cut two rents.

April 12 Sunday

Rain most of the day. Kept the house. Occupied myself arranging my plants in the morning hour, and knitted, during the afternoon. Received a visit from Ann, and Mr. R—. I had come to the determination to insult him, and was only deterred from my purpose by the presence of his wife, whose feelings I would not like to injure.

April 14

R— has made an assignment of his effects to Mr Clark and yesterday an inventory of his effects was made at the house, and a very disagreeable scene ensued. Austin came in town to day.

The election has terminated and at 1 past from what I can gather in the defeat of the Secession party in the city — that is all. For the city of N.O. is not the State nor the U. States.

April 15. Corium is elected Mayor and the Locos have carried twelve wards out of the Counties. So much for the Riot However, we will see what a Registry of voters will do next fall.

A fire occurred this morning about 4 O'clock and by the falling of a wall three men were killed, one of whom was an Engineer, and one or two hurt. * In Eldridge St. between Grand & Broome.

April 16

After all the Locos have not much Events to congratulate themselves, and they are evidently disappointed. There has been no public demonstration of Exploring, no Processions or music on such occasions and it would only have been ridiculous in the face of the long Record in other States of Country.

April 17

Austin has gone to Albany to endeavor to get a Veto to the State Prison Monopoly, which signing the Convict to against Citizens. It is a very serious

Rule of legislation, which is to save the State the expense of supporting the convicts, saved the honest mechanic. Thereby indirectly fastening a much heavier tax upon a large portion of Citizens than they would ever be called upon to pay for the prisoner's support.

April 18

My Sister has spent the day with us. Called at my brother Elbridge's boarding house and left an invitation for him to dine with us tomorrow).

April 19 Sunday

Called at the house I have taken to ascertain when I can commence moving.

Austin gave us a call. Thinks they will not be obliged to pay the note which I obtained from them, as I am not prosecuting on the purchase of the goods for which it was given. On the contrary the note must [underline] be [/underline] used as collateral security, and the receipt so specified, and it was paid for goods which were purchased for cash.

Disappointed for him that he has his trial to come off with as it might go hard with him.

April 20 Attended an Auction. What has always been a matter of some surprise to me, is the extremely high price almost every article cost, and the price it sells for at Auction. I know generally found articles could be purchased about as cheap now, and upon the whole cheaper, for they can at time be had to match.

April 21.

Called on my brother. C. He has made an engagement with Dick which may be considered advantageous for the times.

He is going to make one of my family the 1st of May, and I am in hopes we will be able to form quite a pleasant little society

April 22

Disagreeable, cold and rainy. I was quite comfortable. I am sick of cold weather.

April 24

Spent last evening, with Mrs. at my mother's Slept cold until 2 Oclock this morning

My daughter Rowena began at a visit this evening. We came in time this morning.

April 25. Hand that Co. Swank Eddy and Pat Clark are engaged and will work remotely

Ashby, who is engaged to Emma is now out of business having dissolved partnership with Hussingt.

April 26 Sunday

Kept the house all day. Rainie myself meeting time prepatitory to move.

Am in the afternoon.

May 7. Sunday

Have been occupied with the care attendant upon moving, so busily that not found time to make an entry in the Journal. Am not yet entirely domiciliated though things begin to wear a familiar aspect. Think I should like the change. Considerable labor will be required to get my garden in order which has been much neglected. Intend to set to it in a day or two, work until 7, breakfast, and then at the Store by 8 o'clock.

Have made an arrangement to take my dinner at my Mother-in-law's which I shall like much better than living on the town.

May 4th Great Western arrived yesterday.
Among other events, not the least important is the announcement that the Queen of England is pregnant!

May 12

My evenings have been occupied since moving in getting things "to rights" have not found time to devote to my journal, though for that matter I believe nothing of much importance has occurred in the meantime, unless it be an accident which happened to myself on the night of the 9th. This being the anniversary of the battle of Jena the different Temperance Clubs throughout the city celebrate the event by marching in procession through the streets. What with the array of numbers, the display of banners and torches the effect was quite imposing. One of the Grand Provincial Representative Meetings in full tilt for Thunderbolt. This excited the ire of the "Eager Liberty" boys and several rushes were made in order to obtain possession of the offending banner, but without success. A number of us formed an

impenetrable phalanx around it and we effectually succeeded in repulsing every attempt. At length they Escaped to Shiraz, and just as we almost despaired a building in progress of erection a volley of bricks and other missiles was thrown among us with Considerable Effect. I was struck full in the face with a brick-bat but as it fortunately happened with the flat side. My nose was somewhat bruised and my upper lip cut inside. For a moment I was Stunned with the blow, and on looking round the ground was cleared of my Companions who had made a hasty retreat in order to avoid the attack. I found a number had been hit beside myself though non were seriously injured.

My brother C.C. joined us on Monday.

May 4th.

My wife's Mother visited me and spent most of the afternoon.

As I predicted, Page has advertised his house to let with the intention of going out with his family to Bagdad. He finds himself unable to support the expense and [illegible] as he can consider at it, retains his house expenses alone independent of rent amounting to between three and four thousand dollars.

May 14. Went out of my way to see the Arabian Ship Sultana which arrived in our Harbour some days since. She belongs to the Imaum of Muscat and is sent here to open Commercial intercourse with us, and being the first vessel of that nation which has been seen here she attracts no little notice. I ought to mention that she is an armed vessel and Commanded by a European. Her crew is a motley collection of Coolies, and as dirty looking a set as it has been my lot to look upon. The negroes had no covering save a kind of coarse smock which was far from covering them, and they appeared to suffer in no small degree from cold. A part of the crew appeared to be Marines, but such Soldiers! They were dressed in what appeared to be a kind of worn out English uniform so far as the coat went Commend. Of the breeches the less said the better. One observed white coat tails coat so short that it coat far from concealing what his Mamy ought to have done. An indescribable kind of cap, dirty cross belts, and bare feet and the picture is complete.

May 17. Sunday. "Sweet day of rest" How I rejoice when this day comes. It is such a relief from the cares and anxiety of other days. It is the only day I can spend at home, and being so the privilege to go anywhere else I am disposed to avoid myself of all such occasions.

We have had no visit of company. My sister, Wilkins, Aunt Mary, have been with us most of the day and took tea. Aunt Lucy and Tho. Pat gave us a call and upon the whole we have not felt "lonely".

George is now absent having been called home by the death of his Aunt. in the 14th.

May 19

George returned this morning. I think I shall like my present residence much better than my last, now that I begin to look like home within doors. I rise now at 5 O'clock attend to my flowers and garden which gives me an appetite for Breakfast and then walk down to the Store. I may rise in the morning unless the weather is inclement

May 24 Sunday. Since my last entry an event has occurred which has thrown a gloom over all of us. My youngest brother Charles expired yesterday morning at half past 10 Oclock A after an illness of a week. He was taken with Inflamatory Rheumatism which first attacked his shoulder and almost immediately extended to his heart, though Uncle Henry was not perfectly decided whether he had not some latent disease of that organ as the most powerful medicines appeared to have no effect upon him. The last two days he appeared to be insensable and without pain and his death was so easy you could hardly perceive the instant of seperation. Poor little fellow! just one week since he was here in high health and spirits exciting us with some mirth about the yard and now he is an inanimate and lifeless Clay.

Truly in the midst of life death comes.

May 26

Yesterday we consigned to the tomb the remains of my Brother who in our little circle from appearance health, vigor and elas-

A Post-Mortem examination of his body was held and it was ascertained that his heart was affected beyond the power of medicine to relieve — that it was impossible to live long at the most. They found also that if his lungs were diseased and that he could not have lived long that he not been taken off as he was. The appearances were unusually singular, particularly the affection of the lungs, as he always bore the appearance of a healthy boy with an unusual development of chest.

May 31 Sunday

Together Com. & my brother William Cary and Mary took dinner with us. We are all becoming daily more pleased with our location the air is far better and the walks are very pleasant.

June 7. Sunday. When I rose this morning the sun was shining brightly and the sky was perfectly clear. In ten minutes afterwards a storm came up which has lasted all day without hardly a moments cessation. Sunday is particularly agreeable to me if I could.

be farmed with pleasant Sundays. This being the only day from Grand at Home, I do like to have things pleasant without as well as within. Besides this I always expect some friendly visits on this day which in each of ours we are deprived of.

We have had since our removal here, no less than four different servants. The first got married and left us, the second, after a trial of a week was found inadequate, and the third who, by the way had a child at the breast, though a decent servant, we found could not be pleased to us not lovely. The fourth one is now with us and appears to be a very nice sort of a body, which is somewhat surprising to me considering she is black.

June 14 Sunday

Visited my mother. During the past week my Grand mother accompanied Sis V. & T. Albany. She is quite feeble, and evidently fails fast.

Sunday June 21.

Have neglected my journal of late – I am sorry to say.

Cousin Egbert was in town yesterday and called upon us.

Page, as I predicted has suddenly given up his house, and moved up town. The expense of such an establishment as he had kept up he has found it impossible to maintain, and such an extravagant wife. Only wonder he had held his head above water so long.

June 28 Sunday

Nothing of importance has occurred during the week. Tackett has gone South in search of employment, which it was impossible to obtain here as his credit was all run out. He has left his wife and children dependent entirely on her mother for support, though for that matter she has been dependent ever since her marriage. I have no idea that he will ever be good for anything for his habits are formed, and they are very bad – irreclaimable. On Sunday last we attended

to the first section of the Aqueduct at Bloomingdale. This is a stupendous work and when completed will cause a great deal of humor on the public spirit of our Metropolis Returning, stopped in at a Dutch public house where I have got into a conversation I heard the lively tones of a piano and looking into an adjoining room was not a little surprised to see several couple waltzing round the apartment for all the world as though they were at a ball. Such is however Sunday is a kind of fete day, and all restraint is thrown aside and free scope given to enjoyment of all kinds.

July 4.

Spent the day at my Mother-in-Law's. Witnessed the parade of the Military and dined there for a few days. In the evening took a walk and visiting with me my "Better Half" Wife Geo, Mrs. C. Mrs C.D. Sister Harriet, Cornelia P and their little daughter, drove round the Washington parade ground and the Battery in order to see the display of fire works

which were very fine. The day was beautiful and upon the whole spent it quite pleasantly. George and my brother both left town.

I am still afflicted with a Catarrh which causes me no small degree of uneasiness. If I cannot obtain relief soon it will turn to something worse

Sunday Aug. 16

I rec my last entry the week has glided along pretty much in the same manner so far as myself am concerned. I have continued and kept at work, and my health is very good; the Catarrh with which I was so much troubled having nearly left me. No events of sufficient importance to break the monotony of my daily life, have occurred worth recording and indeed I have felt very little disposition to write down any thing. The Summer evenings are short, and I love to sit by the open window and think of every thing, and nothing.

"Rock me to sleep" seems as they were sick one of mine. My wife's brother Henry, who

is a Middletown, near the other day cut badly with a Scythe in the hands of a careless companion, — so badly he have to be carried home. The wound were dressed but some how Symtoms Lockjaw Since Shown themselves, my Uncle Henry on Friday last left the City to attend him. We have not heard from him since,

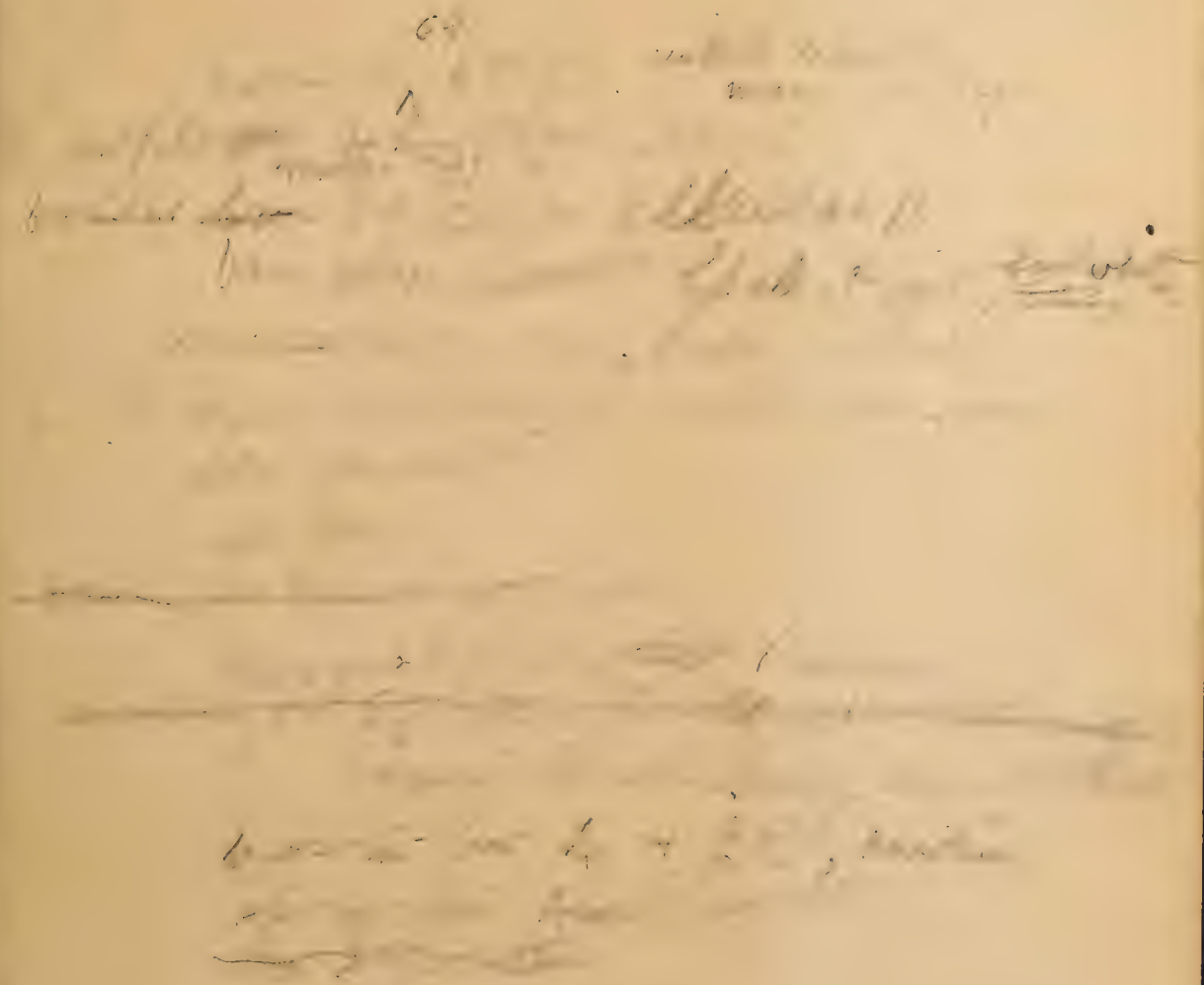
Sunday Aug. 29.

Have just been reading for the third or fourth time the writings of Thos. Jefferson. What a truly great man were he! What a benefactor to his Country and to the world! For the principles which have their birth with him will in time Revolutionize the earth. At all times consistent, he were a beautiful example for the world of a temperate and virtuous life.

Uncle H— has returned and little H— is not in danger.

January 17th 1841

After a long interregnum I again have recourse to my note book. My life has not been devoid of interest by any important event in this time. My family including myself have been blessed with excellent health and in this we have abundant cause for thankfulness. Since the commencement of cold weather I have not experienced a single cold while last winter I was not free from catarrh a single day. This I attribute entirely to bathing my feet every morning in cold water which I have not once neglected since I commenced in Sept. Formerly I was always troubled with cold feet in wet or cold weather, This season I have been entirely free from them. I regularly exercise with dumb bells before retiring to rest besides rubbing my body all over with my hands as hard as I am able. This besides making the skin healthy promotes digestion and consequently sleep



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